

REMARKS

The present invention is a method of operating electrical circuitry included in a user exchangeable cover part for supporting a user interface of a wireless terminal; a wireless communication terminal including a user exchangeable cover part; and an user exchangeable cover for releasable attachment to a wireless communication terminal. In accordance with an embodiment of the invention, a method of operating electrical circuitry 46 illustrated in Fig. 3 included in an user exchangeable cover part 25 for supporting a user interface 2, 3, 5 and 6 of a wireless terminal, the wireless communication terminal and the user exchangeable cover part being electrically connected by means of an electrical connector 41, 42, and 44 comprises identifying a type of user exchangeable cover part; and operating the electrical circuitry of the user exchangeable cover part in dependence upon the identification of the user exchangeable cover part.

The Examiner's indication that claims 14 and 21 are now allowable is noted with appreciation.

Claims 12 and 22 have been amended to delete the previous added recitation "also including a key board and display" as being superfluous for the reasons set forth below and further the word "part" has been added to the preamble of claim 22 in order to provide proper antecedent basis for the subsequent reference to "the user exchangeable cover part."

Claims 1, 13, 15-18, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,911,121 (Andrews). These grounds of rejection are traversed for the following reasons.

At the outset, it is believed that the Examiner's identification of the rejected claims contains typographical errors. First, claim 1 has been cancelled. It is assumed for purposes of this amendment that the Examiner is rejecting claims 12, 13, 15-18, and 20. However, if the Examiner has not in fact rejected the claims as noted above, it is requested that he clarify the record and if necessary issues a new Office Action.

Independent claims 12 and 20 substantively recite the user exchangeable cover includes electrical circuitry which is operated in dependence upon an identification of the user exchangeable cover part. The subject matter has no counterpart in Andrews for the following reasons.

Andrews discloses mobile radio communication devices, which include different keypads 18 and displays 20 and associated software options which are designed to operate with respect to a common printed circuit board architecture. See column 3, lines 17-40 of Andrews. The cover part 44 of Andrews includes a program selector 60, which is sensed by a detection circuit located in the printed circuit board 46. Moreover, the printed circuit board 46 contains the operative electronics including a microprocessor 12. The architectural description of the telephone of Figure 1 in column 2, lines 61-64, clearly states that the "[t]he mobile phone includes 10 includes a microprocessor 12 for controlling the operation of the mobile telephone 10 and a program memory 14 for storing programs used by the mobile telephone 10". The detection circuit 50 generates a configuration signal or signals representing the program configuration to be used by microprocessor 12, which corresponds to a particular model mobile telephone 10. See column 3,

lines 53-57 of Andrews. The keypad 18 and display 20 are part of a removable cover part.

Additionally, Andrews teaches in column 5, lines 13-20 as follows:

"To use the present invention, the printed circuit board 46 is designed to include all of the components and circuitry needed for each available model. For example, if different keypads 18 are used on different models, then the printed circuit board 46 must be designed to include circuitry for each different keypad 18. Similarly, if different models use different displays, then the printed circuit board 46 needs to include circuitry for driving each display 20. A control program to control each model telephone is written into the program memory 14."

It is therefore seen that, electrical circuitry in a user exchangeable cover part, which is operated in dependence upon the identification of the user exchangeable cover part, is not taught by Andrews. Instead, Andrews includes all circuitry which is operated in dependence on the cover design on a printed circuit board 46, which is operated in dependence of a control program also contained in memory 14, which is part of the board. The Examiner's reference to the electrical circuitry 10 in Fig. 2 is understood to include everything except for the key pad 18 and 20.

In accordance with the teachings of Andrews in column 5 only circuitry within the circuit board 46 is operated in dependence upon the identification of the exchangeable front covers 44 which is sensed by the detection circuit 50 as described in column 3, lines 23-39. Moreover, column 3, lines 23-39 is consistent with the teachings in column 5, as quoted above, which states "the circuit board includes all the circuitry needed for each of the various models." Therefore, it seems that the circuitry which is dependent upon the identification of the covers is only that which is contained on the printed circuit

board 46. Since the independent claims recite the operation of the electrical circuitry of the user exchangeable cover part in dependence upon the identification of the user exchangeable cover part, Andrews does not anticipate the subject matter of the claims. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 12, 13, 15-18 and 20 as being anticipated by Andrews is erroneous and should be withdrawn.

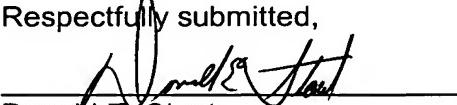
Moreover, there is no basis in the record why a person with ordinary skill in the art would be led to modify the teachings of Andrews to arrive at the subject matter of claims 12, 13, 15-18 and 20.

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Andrews. The subject matter of claim 19, which recites that the number of connectors pins is five, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Andrews for the reasons set forth above with respect to the rejection based upon anticipation of claims 12, 13, 15-18 and 20 by Andrews.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 1030.41310X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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DES/vvr  
Attachments